

Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A solid detergent composition for the manual washing of ware comprising:

- (a) an effective deteritive amount of a neutralized anionic surfactant wherein the neutralized anionic surfactant comprises a result of neutralizing:
 - (i) about 1 wt.% to about 70 wt.% of an anionic surfactant comprising alkyl benzene sulfonate; and
 - (ii) an effective neutralizing amount of at least one of an alkali metal salt, and an alkaline metal earth salt, and mixtures thereof;
- (b) about 0.1 wt.% to about 15 wt.% of an alkyl polyglycoside surfactant;
- (c) about 1 wt.% to about 30 wt.% of an alcohol alkoxylate;
- (d) an effective hardening amount of polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight of about 1,000 to 100,000;

wherein the solid detergent composition is provided in the form of a block dispensed from a mixer by extruding or casting; and

wherein the pH of the dissolved solid composition in an aqueous solution is less than or equal to 9.

26. (Currently Amended) A solid detergent composition according to claim 25, wherein the anionic surfactant is neutralized by an alkali metal salt and the composition further comprises an effective hardening amount of a hydratable inorganic salt.

27. (Currently Amended) A solid detergent composition according to claim 26, wherein the [composition comprises up to about 50 wt.% of the] hydratable inorganic salt comprises a magnesium salt [based on the weight of the detergent composition.]

28. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition comprises about 3 wt.% to about 15 wt.% of the polyethylene glycol.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 28, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of from about 1,450 to about 20,000 8000.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 34 27, wherein the inorganic salt comprises magnesium acetate, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate or combinations of these [acetate salt].

33. (Canceled).

34. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the neutralized anionic surfactant comprises a result of neutralizing with a mixture of alkali metal salt and alkaline earth salt.

35. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 34, wherein the alkyl metal salt comprises a sodium salt, and the alkaline earth salt comprises a magnesium salt.

36. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 35, wherein the sodium salt and the magnesium salt are provided in molar ratio of about 3:1 to about 1:1.

37. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 35, wherein the molar ratio of the sodium salt to the magnesium salt is about 2:1.

38. (Canceled).

39. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition comprises about 35 wt.% to about 65 wt% of the anionic surfactant.

40. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the alkyl polyglycoside surfactant comprises lauryl polyglycoside.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition comprises about 5 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the alkyl polyglycoside surfactant.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition comprises about 5 wt.% to about 15 wt.% of the alcohol alkoxylate.

45. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition further comprises a bleaching agent.

46. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition further comprises a chelating agent.

47. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition further comprises a defoaming agent.

48. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the composition further comprises an anti-redeposition agent.

49. (Canceled).

50. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein the temperature of the composition is 50°C-150°C during formation.

51. (New) A composition according to claim 25, further comprising from about 0.01 wt% to about 15 wt % of an aqueous medium.

52. (New) A composition according to claim 25, comprising from about 0.1 wt% to about 5 wt% of an aqueous medium.

53. (New) A composition according to claim 51, wherein the aqueous medium is included in the detergent composition as a separate ingredient, as part of a liquid ingredient, as part of a liquid premix of ingredients, or combinations of these.

54. (New) A composition according to claim 53, wherein the aqueous medium is included in the detergent composition as part of a liquid ingredient.

55. (New) A solid detergent composition for the manual washing of ware comprising:

- (a) an effective detergents amount of a neutralized anionic surfactant wherein the neutralized anionic surfactant comprises a result of neutralizing:
 - (i) about 1 wt.% to about 70 wt.% of an anionic surfactant comprising alkyl benzene sulfonate; and
 - (ii) an effective neutralizing amount of at least one of an alkali metal salt, and an alkaline metal earth salt, and mixtures thereof;
- (b) an effective detergents amount of an amphoteric surfactant or salt thereof;
- (c) an effective detergents amount of a nonionic surfactant or salt thereof; and
- (d) an effective hardening amount of a hardening agent comprising polyethylene glycol or an inorganic hydratable salt

wherein the above components are solid detergent composition is provided by dispensing the above in the form of a block dispensed from a mixer by extruding or casting; and

wherein the pH of the dissolved solid composition in an aqueous solution is less than or equal to 9.

56. (New) The solid detergent composition of claim 55, wherein the amphoteric surfactant comprises one or more β -N-alkylaminopropionic acids, N-alkyl- β -iminodipropionic acids, imidazoline carboxylates, N-alkylbetaines, or sultaines.

57. (New) The solid detergent composition of claim 56, wherein the amphoteric surfactant comprises lauroamphoacetate, capryloamphopropionate, capryloamphodipropionate, cocoamidopropyl betaine, coco monoethanolamide, disodium cocoamphodipropionate or combinations of these.

58. (New) The solid detergent composition of claim 57, wherein the amphoteric surfactant comprises cocoamidopropyl betaine.

59. (New) A process for producing a packaged, solid detergent composition comprising

(I) providing a detergent composition by combining

(a) an effective detergents amount of a neutralized anionic surfactant wherein the neutralized anionic surfactant comprises a result of neutralizing:

(i) about 1 wt.% to about 70 wt.% of an anionic surfactant comprising alkyl benzene sulfonate; and

(ii) an effective neutralizing amount of at least one of an alkali metal salt, an alkaline metal earth salt, and mixtures thereof;

(b) about 0.1 wt.% to about 15 wt.% of an alkyl polyglycoside surfactant;

(c) about 1 wt.% to about 30 wt.% of an alcohol alkoxylate; and

(d) an effective hardening amount of a hardener comprising polyethylene glycol, a hydratable inorganic salt, or combinations of these;

(II) in a high shear mixer until a substantially homogenous detergent composition is obtained and

(III) dispensing the detergent composition from the mixer into a packaging receptacle.

60. (New) The process of claim 59, wherein the high shear mixer comprises a twin screw extruder.

61. (New) The process of claim 59, wherein the temperature of the detergent composition at the point of discharge from the extruder is about ambient temperature.

62. (New) The process of claim 59, wherein the packaging receptacle is a biodegradable packaging receptacle.